

## RCP Meeting Minutes for May 27, 2015

6:30 Waterloo Aquatic Education Center

In Attendance: Amy Mackey, Sarah Landers, Dustin Gross, Alicia Rector, Natalie (and Wilder) Kruse, Molly Gurien, Glenn Stout, Heike Perko.

1. Introductions, review agenda
2. Review and Approve prior board meeting minutes
  - a. Couldn't do this, did not have a quorum
3. Treasurer Report
  - a. Sent via email
  - b. April
    - Water quality specialist \$441.27
    - General funds \$6178.67
    - Ora Anderson \$ 2200.66
    - RCWTA \$ 1598.73
    - Waterloo Camp-\$2171.08
    - AEP bill \$26.43
  - c. May
    - Water quality specialist \$441.21
    - General funds \$5088.37
    - Ora Anderson \$ 2200.66
    - Waterloo Camp-\$2171.08
    - DOW Grant-\$567.12
    - RCWTA \$ 1620.73
    - AEP bill-\$27.57
  - d. Casa Donations \$131 thank you to those who went.
  - e. Reminder to let Amber know when to move \$\$ from Waterloo Camp account to GF
  - f. Must spend Ora Anderson by June 30<sup>th</sup> and report by August
  - g. We need a fundraising committee to cover AmeriCorps expenses next year.  
AmeriCorps are not allowed to raise these funds themselves; they may only raise funds for a specific cause like education/kids camps but not money for operating funds.
4. Water Quality Specialist Update: Sarah
  - a. Only got 4/6 LTM monitoring days done due to the weather conditions (frozen - rained really hard – flood – mud – dry). Hopefully will get the rest in the fall
    - i. Missed Little Raccoon and West Branch
    - ii. The other watersheds are in the same boat
  - b. Project maintenance-doing okay
    - i. Spent 5/27/15 at the doser changing the sprockets with Kabbe and Amy

- ii. Still need to secure the doser chain (at the top of the doser to hook into) with rope because it sags
    - iii. Need to fix the “falling rope” problem at the doser because the rope is too stretchy (to utilize the fall arrester)
    - iv. Doser is in rough shape regarding a paint job, but it is on Kabbe’s (ODNR’s) radar
    - v. Have some clogs at project sites that need unclogged via hole drilling soon. Have put them off until warm weather.
    - vi. Construction is nearly complete at Flint Run Wetland Berms, Sarah will need to go check on it.
    - vii. Middleton Run Reclaim and Lake Morrow are in post-construction chemical monitoring phase.
  - c. Biological Monitoring: will be doing all the MAIS sites we did last year (36) and possibly more if we have the time
  - d. Raccoon Creek Technical Advisory Committee, TAC meeting for June 3<sup>rd</sup> has been cancelled, reschedule date and time TBD
5. Coordinator Update: Amy
- a. Only 10 people are enrolled in Kroger Community Rewards
    - i. April was refresh month so make sure you refresh.
    - ii. Dustin is going to put out a Facebook blast
  - b. Officially have Level 3 Fish Credible Data Collector Status.
    - i. Will be doing a couple fish sites for OU outside of Raccoon Creek for a project
  - c. Fish sites for this year: Have 3 scheduled for Hewett Fork and a few in Little Raccoon Creek. Will Schedule more if we have time (after MAIS is complete)
  - d. Applied for Quidell Cares funding. Requested equipment for Waterloo Aquatic Education Center with the funds. Examples: weed eater, push mower, hand tools, cordless drill
  - e. North American Native Fish Association Grant: Funds are supposed to be dispersed June 1<sup>st</sup>, but haven’t heard back from them yet, so assuming we didn’t get it.
  - f. MAIS training for AmeriCorps is on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Amy and Sarah help and the AmeriCorps take it.
  - g. Step outside grant is now in the mail for camp picnic/food supplies/bluebird house supplies
  - h. Newsletters have been sent
  - i. A student is conducting surveys about AMD treatments and their economic benefits and social impacts. Please fill out all three of these surveys. If you don’t know or feel like you are informed to answer a particular question there is a N/A button.
  - j. We have two volunteers that will be spending a lot of time with us.
    - i. Chelsi Hempstead: Wants to help as much as possible. Kids Camp help and MAIS help. Ideally would like to chunk her volunteer days together.

- ii. Andrea Littler: Beacon School Volunteer. Willing to help volunteer with anything
- 6. AmeriCorps and Education Update
  - a. Mentioned earlier, Step Outside grant is submitted for camps
  - b. Still planning out many of the fine details, focusing on planning the first camp.
  - c. Really need help with volunteers and drivers! Especially with helping to prep lunch, monitor lunch and clean up after lunch. It's proving very difficult to gather volunteers this year.
    - i. Natalie suggested Jess can help drive if need to.
    - ii. Will be getting ahold of Sarah L. and Michelle S from Sunday Creek to help with the Canoeing events since Molly can't be there
    - iii. Plan to contact ComCorps to help out a couple days and maybe one day during lunch they can help the kids make a nutritious meal based on habitats or foraging?
    - iv. Molly suggested contacting Carson Calhoun to volunteer.
    - v. Will be sending Amy the volunteer specifics so she can ask the members,
    - vi. Looking into contacting Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalists
    - vii. If anyone has other suggestions, contact Dustin or Alicia.
- 7. Water Trails Update
  - a. Spring float, April 26<sup>th</sup>, went well but the water came up fast!
  - b. Had first of the 2 American Canoe Association Level 1 Canoe Instructor Development Workshop (funded by the ODNR 2015 Boating Safety Education Grant), Instructor Certification Exams during Memorial Day weekend.
    - i. Everyone (Alicia, Dustin, Sarah, Michelle from Sunday Creek and 2 Boy Scout leaders) became temporarily certified as Instructors. Molly just needs to finish submitting and going through the vast amount of paperwork associated with this.
    - ii. Next workshop is July 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>
  - c. Big thing for Water Trails right now is the signs. Have the sample sign, need to decide on material, finish other signs, and get them printed before end of June.
  - d. Still raffling kayak tickets!
    - i. Heike has \$35 from raffle ticket purchases and ticket stubs-Still need to collect these.
- 8. Updates to Sarah/Amy Contracts, Future AmeriCorps Contracts
  - a. Sarah's contract, how is it going to work?
    - i. RC&D will no longer be the employer. Now it will be run through OU (still funded primarily by MRM).
    - ii. OU = not enough money to make Sarah a full time employee so she will be a 75% employee, Group 1 administrative staff with benefits. Not only are these contracts ending, but OU is changing how they employ people.
    - iii. Of this 75% of full time hours, only about 60% of the hours will be used for Raccoon Creek and the other 15% for OU and 319 grant stuff. This means all

the Raccoon Creek things like monitoring and maintenance and data will still be done, but the outreach/education is now considered volunteer time not paid time. The outreach and education hours had to be eliminated in order to keep her at OU.

1. This means outreach and education will have to be done through the board and the AmeriCorps
    - iv. Will have more time to write grants to do more hours of work.
  - b. Amy's contract-most likely will go in a similar direction to Sarah's regarding outreach and education being cut from paid hours. Amy's contract up December 31, 2015.
  - c. AmeriCorps mileage is being significantly reduced; need to have a fundraiser for their mileage. Remember, AmeriCorps cannot raise funds for themselves.
  - d. In Summary this means we need to have a strong board.**
    - i. Haven't been making a quorum in the past meetings which makes it difficult to get things done, we need more people.
    - ii. Need to start recruiting.
    - iii. Ideally it would be nice to have a guest speaker or take our meetings to another area of the watershed. However, if we can't even get four members to a meeting then we can't take our meetings on the road.
    - iv. It would be ideal to make the treasurer a permanent position, but we can't do this unless the treasurer is an elected position. Currently it is set up that the board is elected and they then pick officers. If we want the treasurer permanent, then we need to change it so that we elect officers.
    - v. Want to attempt to have a big recruiting meeting sometime soon.
      1. Ideas for this included: Wilksville or something water trail oriented. Something in Vinton County? Amy will ask Craig to guest speak (feral swine – USDA)? Heike will ask the diner or community center when she gets back from vacation?
    - vi. Need to send out a recruiting mailer/flyer/postcard. Heike is drafting it and Dustin is creating it.
    - vii. Next year with the AmeriCorps we are going to do a big landowner outreach project, hopefully that will result in getting more people involved.
9. Waterloo Work Day and House
- a. Need to schedule a workday around board members and then send it out to the membership
    - i. Alicia sent out a doodle pool, everyone needs to respond to it.
  - b. Want to paint the ceilings; Heike and Amy are donating paint, who else can?
  - c. The House: looking into using it as office/AmeriCorps housing.
    - i. Someone needs to look into the liabilities and insurance we would have with someone living there.
  - d. Bob=need to fix the toilet's constant running in Waterloo before summer camps.

Next RCP meeting June 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 Waterloo